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MINNESOTA LIBRARIES



51ST M.L.A. CONFERENCE

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Volume XIV

December, 1944

Number 8

LIBRARY DIVISION
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STATE OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL

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MINNESOTA LIBRARIES

Volume XIV

DECEMBER, 1944

Number 8

Conference Notes . . .

- This year's M.L.A. meeting, the first since 1942, was professionally and individually stimulating. It was good to get together again, good to meet old acquaintances. It was even better to profit from a program characterized by its emphasis upon professional self-examination and wise planning. This program, satisfying and well-timed, found librarians in a receptive, inquiring frame of mind.
- Of special interest was the address by Carl Vitz, President of the American Library Association, who cited some of the current obstacles that impede library growth and development. His incisive comments might well serve as a point of departure for a broad, all-out attack upon those conditions which have deterred a real library movement within the state.
- The Library Planning Committee's Report presented at one of the general sessions is an important document which, in a specific sense, reinforces and gives added weight to the general remarks by Mr. Vitz. It is an excellent report that promises a good beginning. Let it not stop there! It should be motivated by the will to action on the part of all librarians who stand to make real library gains through achievement of the aims indicated in this Report.
- It is pertinent to observe that without a strong state library agency progress will be extremely slow and difficult. To become strong and effective the LIBRARY DIVISION must receive increased financial aid from the state legislature. Such assistance is unlikely until librarians, library trustees and enlightened lay groups convince law makers of its justification.
- A field representative is almost indispensable to the state library agency of today but ever since World War I the Division has had no such person on its staff. A field worker is greatly needed to give continuous professional aid to librarians, especially those of small libraries, to make complete surveys of libraries and to interpret these surveys to library boards sorely in need of this information. Also, to orient lay boards on their duties as trustees, on the need for larger service areas, and on the desirability of certification. In addition it is imperative to have an organizer to set up library demonstrations similar to those developed under the WPA, to release educational information on the advantages of regional library service, and to assist lay groups in organizing county library associations in counties where demonstrations may be undertaken.
- A LIBRARY DIVISION properly staffed and supported should be able to realize, in part, the goals set forth in the Planning Committee Report and to prevail over the difficulties indicated by Mr. Vitz. States having made notable library advances in recent years are those with strong state agencies. They have become strong by virtue of enlarged, legislative appropriations obtained through the organized efforts of librarians, trustees and a library-minded citizenry. Minnesota too can become a strong, well-supported agency if librarians will unite to make it so.—L. F. Z.

Alma M. Penrose

The sudden and unexpected death of Miss Penrose after a brief illness comes as a profound shock to her many friends everywhere. She attended the state library conference in St. Paul, October 5-7 and seemed in the best of health, but several weeks later she was taken ill and died on November 2.

Miss Penrose was a graduate of Oberlin College, 1901. After several years of teaching, she attended the School for Library Training at the University of Iowa during the summers of 1908-9. She became assistant cataloger at Grinnell College, Iowa, and later spent a year at Illinois where she received the B.L.S. degree in 1915.

In the fall of 1915 she became librarian of West High School, Minneapolis and, from 1919-1922, she was assistant librarian of Carleton College. She then returned to Minneapolis and was librarian of the University High School until 1927 when she became librarian of the St. Cloud Public Library.

Here over the years she developed an outstanding library service for all the people. Beginning with contracts with adjacent rural schools, she finally inaugurated a county library service through the WPA demonstration in 1940. In 1941 a one mill tax was levied and a permanent county library established. However, Miss Penrose visioned a still broader field of service in a tri-county regional library system operating from St. Cloud which she hoped could be organized in the post-war years.

Throughout her career, Miss Penrose gave much of her time to library training. She was instructor in the Summer School at the University of Iowa in 1915 and 1916, at Oregon in 1918, at Minnesota, except for two years, from 1919 to 1937, and at Columbia in 1922 and 23. While at the University High School she gave courses in the College of Education on the School Library and taught elementary classification and cataloging in the Correspondence Study Department.

Miss Penrose had broad professional interests throughout her career. She was vice-president of the Library Section of the M.E.A. in 1920, and president of the Lake Region Library Club. She acted as chairman of the Small Libraries Round Table of the M.L.A. in 1929, served as 2nd vice-president in 1932 and 1933 and became president in 1934, presiding at the Glenwood meeting, when interest in state-wide planning was developing under the stimulus of Miss Countryman's Montreal speech. She afterwards rendered splendid service as secretary of the Planning Committee, and made a special study of regional libraries.

Whatever the problem in school or public library, she faced it realistically, studied it carefully with open mind and practical common sense, yet never losing sight of the ideal.

As a teacher she was able and thorough and helped many a teacher-librarian to carry on more efficiently.

Her personality was marked by poise, dignity and graciousness. She was serene of spirit; indefatigably devoted to her work; and loyal to her profession, to the institution which she headed, and to her friends.

Her qualities of leadership and her whole-hearted cooperation in the entire field of library service made her an invaluable member of the profession who will be greatly missed by the LIBRARY DIVISION, the State Library Association, her own community and her friends everywhere.—*Clara F. Baldwin.*

Library Planning In Minnesota

CARL VITZ

President, American Library Association

This address was given extemporaneously by Mr. Vitz before a general session of the M.L.A. Conference on Friday A. M., October 6. The version published below is based on notes taken during the course of his speech. While it is regretted that no copy of his original speech is available for publication, it is hoped that the account below, inadequate as it is, may serve to inform the reader of the nature of his remarks.—Editor.

Library Planning as all of us know is not new. Since the founding of the A.L.A. in 1876 the extension of library service to all the people has been one of its main objectives. From that time on all state library organizations and librarians generally have been constantly working toward that end, but relatively slow progress has been made over the years. Extension of library advantages has not kept pace with the steady growth in population. This is a reflection upon us. In Minnesota excellent library services have been rendered by some libraries which have come up to or surpassed prescribed standards for large and small communities but in this state, like the United States as a whole, library service is spotty. It is very good in some places but very poor in others.

And while some of us here in Minnesota have known good libraries too many others have known only poor libraries or none at all. Two-fifths of the people in the state are without any library service and the other three-fifths are not served as efficiently as they might be.

Both service and income vary too much between communities. In 1943 the per capita appropriation in one was \$5.00; in another it was \$.04. One library had an annual book budget of \$27.00. Libraries like the latter reflect upon the community and help to encourage disrespect. When a library is poverty-stricken, uninviting and necessarily stocked with few books or old books, people cease going there for reading matter.

Our greatest strength is to be found in the building of larger library units. The state could be divided into regions which would be preferable to our present system of separate libraries for each community. The im-

portant factor to be considered is the person using the library. Every person has a right to good service. Our aim must be to serve the public well, and we should consider the better service that each individual will derive from a consolidation of many small libraries to form the larger administrative unit for a given area.

One big library in St. Paul or Minneapolis is not the answer to the problem. A typical unit, to be adequate, might serve a territory of 25,000 people and through its staff provide service for all its readers from a basic working collection of 100,000 to 150,000 books.

Enlarged library units would have larger collections which would be better selected. A small, highly trained staff at headquarters would make for efficiency and effective supervision of branches and stations located within the area. The end result is a library system economically managed and giving a high type of service which the small independent library in the little community is unable to duplicate.

I can remember, back when the telephone was young, that each community had its own separate telephone company. It gave good service. If you had a telephone you could call perhaps fifty other people in the community who also had telephones operated by the local company. But the people outside your town were out of reach. When all the independent companies finally merged into the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., we obtained the fine service which all of us enjoy today. Not fifty people within a few miles radius, but anyone in the state, or in the country, can be reached by lifting the receiver.

We as librarians might very well emulate

this example. Instead of many small libraries, each serving a thousand people or more, with small independent book collections, we should have a regional library serving 25 times as many people and housing many thousands of books. Instead of a book budget of \$27.00 there will be a fund of thousands of dollars for purchasing books.

You will probably be asking yourself where the money is to come from. It seems to me that the more we ask for, the more we are likely to get. The better the plan we present, the better the chance for support. We, in this country, think in large figures. Librarians, throwing off their American heritage in this one instance, are too likely to think in terms of small sums since professionally we have been conditioned that way.

But merely to ask will not accomplish much. We must examine the sources of tax income for our libraries. At present we rely almost wholly upon the real estate tax. In cities especially, this tax is shrinking because many residents move outside urban limits to escape it. Larger units will help to equalize the distribution of real estate revenues. More important, however, is finding new sources of tax income to maintain our libraries. Naturally, this is not the work of a moment. It will take time and will require some very definite action on our part.

First, let me urge you to improve the library picture as the public sees it. Many of our libraries are neither beautiful nor comfortable; buildings do not attract — they are too skimpy. My message to you is to go back to your own library and look at it with a critical eye. Be severe with yourself if you find dirty walls, crooked curtains, apparent makeshifts. Look at the front of your building. Does it look like the hub of the community, the center of activity? A good architectural front is important if we are to put our best foot forward.

We should use color and utilize many of the ideas that manufacturers and magazines advocate. The Skinner Room here in the St. Paul Public Library is a good example of the use of color. Even the army libraries of today are attractive. They are not pretentious but they breathe warmth and seem to invite one to sit down and be comfortable.

These things are important because the library itself must command the people's respect.

And speaking about librarians, we tend to keep too much to ourselves; instead we should become part of our city governments, associated with city officers and in continuous contact with all cultural and civic leaders of the community. We need these people and their support in our efforts to improve library conditions. We must stop being isolationists and become joiners instead. Librarians should be seen at civic meetings and should become members of all kinds of organizations. The day of the "inarticulate librarian" is passing. We *are* the leaders and have no right to head up a library without exercising our powers of leadership. We should have views and make them known. Under all conditions we should be able to rise to the occasion and to speak with authority.

Although a self-made person can become the greatest scholar by reading, the standards of library training are too low. Backed by a minimum of college education and a year of technical training in library school, we expect a librarian to grow to the position of executive head. Many do this creditably but it is not always possible. The top notch librarian should acquire more education as the needs of the community grow greater, and should be ready to hand it on to a successor who will in turn have a still fuller and more rounded background of education and culture.

Training-in-service in a larger city is one way to acquire such education — although librarians cannot always find time for it. Correspondence courses are well developed — and here, the army is now giving regular college courses under army teacher supervision.

It is encouraging to know that wars start new movements. We are now in the ground swell of one. People are being exposed to books and reading as never before. The most important group of these is in the armed forces. The army has purchased 15,000,000 cloth bound books in the past four years. In addition many more million victory books were collected and distributed

far and wide to those in the armed services. They now have 600 trained librarians and are spending \$1.00 a year for books for each service man. And this does not include textbooks, bought from separate funds.

Following World War I a new impetus was given to the library movement. World War II should mark the beginning of another promising era for libraries. Men who have enjoyed the kind of library service the soldiers have had, are very likely to demand as good service from their civilian libraries when they return home.

Another source of support which we too often overlook is our own trustee. Some feel that the day of the layman trustee is past, that we must have an "expert." I do not agree. I feel that we do not fully utilize our trustees. Trustees who cultivate public support and form with the librarian a good working team can be of great value. If the trustee is steamed up about his own and all library problems, then he is far preferable to the city manager system of library government.

You will quite naturally observe that the greater part of this talk has been devoted to public libraries. This is not because I am unaware of the existence of other libraries nor that I am unsympathetic to their problems. Rather it is because I think at this time public libraries are more in need of attention than school, college, hospital, institutional or other libraries. Ten to twenty years ago, school and college libraries got religion. They rose up and began to do things and from them the public libraries can learn much.

Hospital and institutional libraries have also carried their pioneering work far, especially here in Minnesota.

Today there are new factors and new techniques with which to work more closely so that books and reading can reach everyone in the community. Thus can we promote informal education on a child's or adult's level and, at the same time, give to the public the recreation which books can perform. By 1961, we should be able to record a decisive upward climb in the library picture.

Refutation, Not Suppression

One of the earliest exponents of freedom of the press was Louis XII of France. In 1513 he issued an edict stating that printers should be free from all restrictions. In it he spoke with appreciation and admiration of the printing art, the discovery of which he considered "rather divine than human." He congratulated his kingdom on their leadership in the development of printing, saying that in this "France takes precedence of all other realms."

When the Council of Pisa condemned a book as heretical, Louis said: "Take no measures of severity against the author, but let the learned professors go over the book chapter by chapter and write a refutation of any part which seems contrary to truth."—G. H. Putnam in *Books and Their Makers*.

The Meaning of Adult Education

MORTIMER J. ADLER*
University of Chicago

I would like to talk to you about adult education, about reading and the great books, because I think it is the important educational problem of the next century. . . . There is going to be universal adult education in this country and I believe that our problem is one of creating what must be called a responsibility of learning — universal adult education. To commence this great movement there is only one institution that is competent to undertake it and that is the public library.

Our colleges are incompetent largely because they are wedded to the system of courses and credits. . . . That is why we look to the public and state libraries to undertake what they are so competent to do in the important field of adult education.

Adult education — the education of mature men and women — anyone outside the University — is the most important level of education. I am not saying what is usually said, namely, that scholastic preparation is preparation for life, but rather that the kind of education which takes place in adult years is much more important as education than any education that can take place in high school, college or university. It is the fruition of education.

Because of the peculiar character of human nature, individuals must be socially organized. For most of us the notion of the solitary pursuit of learning is impossible. It must be socially organized, but not institutionally as is education in college or university.

Adult education is distinguished from all other kinds by being continuous and interminable. Interminability continues until the grave. So long as man lives and has a mind he can learn, and so long as he can learn he should. Education must be so conceived as a continuous process to the end of life.

What every school boy doesn't know usually at the moment of graduation is how little he knows and how much he has to

learn. In my youth I went to a good school, the faculty was made up of good competent men and women. The curriculum was good but I fooled away my time. . . . The graduate usually puts the blame not on himself but on the institution where he spent his four years.

A college degree does not signify an educated man. Even the best graduate, one with the most initiative and the best qualifications who has applied his energy at the best college, would not be educated at the end of four years. At the end of five or ten years out of college he would be the first to admit that he needs an education which he did not get in college.

The reason is that youth itself is the greatest obstacle to becoming educated and there isn't much that we can do about it. We have to wait for time. Young people are by the very nature of being young people unreceptive to education. They can be trained in certain ways; they can be given habits of mind and their interests can be stimulated which will stand them in good stead when they come to adult life. . . .

The chief failure of our colleges is that they are not preparing youth for adult education. The A.B. degree is an initiation, not a termination. It does not represent a learned man or woman. The graduate has only begun his education; he possesses only the *tools* of learning.

Aristotle in his *Ethics* points out mainly that moral and political philosophy cannot be taught to young people. This is not only because their emotions are too wayward, but because they necessarily lack the moral and political experience so indispensable to a rich understanding of political problems. They can be trained but that is all. Young people cannot be expected to be responsible in their judgment. They do not have the experience that ripens judgment.

I say this with personal feeling because I was very fortunate in my own education.

*This condensation of Mr. Adler's address was prepared for publication from notes taken on the occasion of its delivery before a general session of the M.L.A. Conference, Friday evening, October 6, 1944.—Editor.

I was at Columbia at the time of John Erskine; studied a course which centered around the reading of great books. Then I was taken on the staff at Columbia, later on the staff at Chicago, and for the last 20 years I have been teaching. Over this period of time I have read the great books again and again. Capacity for understanding came to me only as I matured. An adult is a better reader of these books.

. . . By adult education I do not mean training in a series of avocations. I do not mean listening to lectures. And the last thing I could possibly mean is current event classes. Current events and condensed books like *Readers' Digest* are not educational in the proper sense. They are objectionable because they do not satisfy the primary requirement.

Adult education should be liberal. By liberal education I mean two things. First, the discipline of our rational processes. Man's distinguishing characteristic is his very capacity to reason and to think. To reach this objective is one of our greatest responsibilities. It is simple logic. Without being "high falutin'" about reason or our intellect, in all our living, man is called upon to exercise reason and make judgments — judgments of fact. Whatever our level of life, we are constantly called upon in our personal and civil life to be rational.

Secondly — we have a mind. A mind is like an eye; it is a faculty. Ideas are to a mind what light and color are to an eye. Cultivation of a mind is a liveliness of mind. . . . No one can hold the truth in his mind without continually relearning it.

Insofar as we can arrive at understanding of simple moral truth, objective truths about existence, about God, we can't stop thinking about them. Ideas are retained only by continued exercise of the mind. We can't do it in college because without experience or maturity a great many ideas won't take root in the first place. Discipline of rational processes in the college is the best that can be done but, begun there, it must be continued if these processes are to be made rational and strong. A curriculum of adult education is the same as a curriculum of liberal education. The heart of liberal education is great

books and the art of discussing them. This is the chief aim of St. John's College. The curriculum is oriented around the reading of the great books, learning how to read them and learning how to talk about them well.

The prevalent misconception is that in four years the student has mastered the books. On the contrary he has been given only the disciplines and the approach to their mastery. St. John's is the only college in the world where a true adult education program exists.

Why is the reading of great books necessary? It can be explained because of the importance of the art of reading, the art of thinking. The person who can read well is the person who can also think well. The person who can read well has good critical judgment — judgment that is both sound and good. Training in the art of reading books is not an accidental thing. When I specify what I mean by reading, I think you will comprehend what I mean. I don't mean what most people mean who read the newspapers, magazines or most of the books on library shelves. The reading most people do is by its very nature effortless. When any reading becomes painful, they stop. Most of us want to read passively. Few of us want to read if it becomes an effort.

Education is the process of being elevated by one's betters. We may not understand all that we read but we must learn to take a difficult book and read it with or without an instructor's assistance thereby disciplining our own minds. The really great books are over everybody's head all the time. These are obviously the best books to read. . . . Most of us don't think without talking to our friends. . . . No one can do what Socrates did, yet it is the perfect idea of teaching. Reading and the discussion of these great books are important. It is very difficult to do these things by oneself. It is hard to think by ourselves; our thinking is socially conditioned and requires the stimulus of other minds.

To think well requires that we be socially organized. It means more than merely getting together for discussion. It requires a seminar leader. The leader must have very special abilities, special skill. A good semi-

nar leader is one who never makes any remarks; he leads a discussion merely by questions. This is along the lines of the Socratic method. A quiz section, in which the instructor asks a question, the student replies, and the instructor says it is right or wrong, is directly opposite to the seminar method.

Democracy makes free speech universal. Liberal education must be equally universal. Education will never prove itself unless con-

tinued during the whole of life. . . . We have a long job ahead of us. It will require several hundred years to do. As a good beginning the librarian in every community can organize adult seminars. A seminar should never emphasize one particular subject field to the exclusion of others. A successful seminar is one that should include for discussion novels, plays, philosophy, history, science and many others. The library is the chosen instrument for this task.

Posterity Will Not Thank Us

The collect-all type of librarian is fast disappearing. . . . His successor, brought up in the later mode to regard a library as a laboratory rather than as a mausoleum, will at once find his fingers itching to fling away unsightly rows of dusty volumes disturbed only at the annual stocktaking, if then. He will approach the work of cleansing unhampered by sentimental memories, such as his predecessor would have, of battles fought long ago to obtain those very books he now proposes to jettison. A lot of cant used to be talked (and still may be) about preserving books for posterity. It is definitely not the business of the small-town librarian to saddle himself with the awful responsibility of handing down intact to the twenty-first century the whole of the matter printed during the glorious reign of Victoria. Obviously there are many books whose interest will endure, and may even increase, during future years, and these we must keep and have represented in libraries for all time. But posterity will not thank us for leaving a legacy of junk, and I for one am certain that the librarian of a generation hence will be much more critical and much more ruthless in discarding than even the young iconoclast of today. — Wilfrid Hynes in his "Revision of Stock." *Library Association Record*, August 1935.

The Small Library and Its Future

ELLA VESLAK

Librarian, Shawano, Wisconsin, Public Library

If I were to give this very informal talk a title, it would be "My Faith in the Small Public Library and Its Future." To me it is a special privilege to talk to both librarians and trustees in Minnesota.

We have been greatly impressed by the work done in your State, but I must confess I was not wholly aware of your County Program and all that had been accomplished since its organization, until reading the reports in *MINNESOTA LIBRARIES* recently. I feel that Mr. Zimmerman has done an outstanding piece of work in guiding you people in the development of this service.

We, as librarians, are well aware that a definite challenge lies before us. All too often in the past we have been guilty of living as "genteel and ineffectual dwellers in ivory towers." These times demonstrate the fallacy of pinning faith to an activity, which, in the last analysis glorifies the clerical job of charging out books.

Quoting from Mr. Overstreet, in which he says,

"The librarian in training is taught not only to handle books, but to read them and comprehend their significance. Some of the older-minded librarians resent this, but the young-minded, of whatever chronological age believe that the chief task of the librarian is no longer merely custodial but educative."

I believe the time has come when we must think in terms of extended library service. We must not only know our books, but we also must be business people; and, as the man in business on Main Street has an eye to expanding his business, depending on a turn-over, and a very large one, to prove that his efforts have been worthwhile; I believe that we, in giving library service can never be satisfied until we have reached every unserved person with good reading material.

We immediately recognize that to accomplish such a goal we must emphasize the

importance of continuous contacts with the people of our community. The day of thinking in terms of service given only over the librarian's desk to such patrons as may be attracted to the library because of book lists in the evening paper, or the occasional window display, is past.

Our responsibility now reaches out not only to the children who are becoming library conscious through the schools, but to that vast number of people who did not benefit from library guidance in their school days, and who now are turning to varied sources of information for knowledge and self-development in their adult years.

May I return for just a moment to the school child? I would like to remind you of how very important I think the constant awareness of the public library among school children should be. We all recognize that fortunately the school library is improving its quality and quantity of books. I feel that is of the greatest value to us in our public library work. However, we cannot depend upon the school library for the child's only reading experience. While it may be completely adequate during his school years, yet if he has never had public library contacts, it will be all too easy for him to pass from school library experience to the newsstand. Let us make every effort to appeal to him through the public library so that when his school days have ended he will continue naturally with his well-formed reading habits and will come to that institution. That in itself should justify our efforts to keep public libraries adequate and worthwhile.

We are more mindful than ever before of our need for an educated citizenry. A librarian to be worthy of her responsibility in working toward such an end must have faith and a definite purpose. She must come to her position well prepared, and with strong confidence. I firmly believe that we must work toward the highest possible standards

in our library profession. A librarian must be able to feel and recognize the needs of the community. We cannot guess in the privacy of our own minds what these are. Through the medium of personal contact and the use of every type of survey we must find the answers to the community's library need. It would be difficult to suggest the type of survey applicable in any given community, but the alert librarian studying her own local situation can choose those approaches best suited to her purpose. At this point I should like to turn to what I believe would be the Trustees' part in this picture.

All too often Trustees having been called upon to work very hard in the organization of their libraries now feel that they can relax quite pleasantly and should be able to ride along with the librarian. You cannot allow this to happen. We assume that Trustees are appointed on Library Boards because of the respect and esteem in which they are held by the people locally, and their presumable interest in improved educational and cultural values for their communities. We speak of public relationship a great deal these days. I firmly believe in it, and I believe that it must start with the Library Board. Assuming that this Board has hired the best possible type of librarian, the Trustees should support the librarian in her work through attendance at Library Board meetings; offer approval when it is justified; and good, solid, constructive criticism wherever necessary. The Trustees must be constantly aware of the needs of the library, an awareness born of their responsibilities and understanding. I feel it to be the duty of the Library Trustee to make friends for the library; no one is in a better position to do so. Coming from various walks of life in the community they, of necessity, have influential and important contacts which the librarian cannot possibly enjoy.

Is it too much to ask that you men, when out upon the golf course, or at your club or lodge, let drop a word here and there of your approval of what is being done at the public library? I do not mean "high-pressure" salesmanship — I simply mean that people like you can do more to build confi-

dence in the service that is being given than the librarian ever can.

And to you women on the Library Board — please never fail to take advantage of the opportunity to say a kindly word about the library and the work that is being done, whether it be at your club, the church society, or the bridge table.

This matter of the expansion of library service must be undertaken with the complete approval and understanding of your Trustees. I realize that for years we have thought in terms of the public library, its immediate Library Board, and the village or city within its boundary lines. Surely you must realize that the time has come when we no longer think in terms of the physical aspects of our work, but rather in terms of service; and when we speak of service today it must imply the devising of a workable and intelligent plan that will carry good reading material to all unserved areas leading out from one or several libraries.

We have at home a very fine county library set-up of which the community and county are very proud, but I must confess that it is completely inadequate. It is our experience to live in a day when everything moves so rapidly we hardly have time to solve one problem before another presents itself. Our county service has proven itself, but now we face the challenge for expanding on a regional basis. In the adjoining county there are many people who desire library service. When our County Board appropriated money for a county library, I made the statement that all money would be used for the benefit of our county people only. I was completely wrong, and now I know that I face a future that must change all that. It will take better minds than ours to solve this problem, but I do feel that it is the duty of Library Trustees and librarians to work toward a solution, ready with constructive suggestions when that times comes, knowing within ourselves what our needs are because of having made intelligent library surveys of our immediate community and that of the people beyond. We are aware of a future that holds forth the promise of both State and Federal Aid for library service. How soon that will be realized we do not

know, but I am certain that we must work toward that end, prepared to do our part well when the time comes.

Let us be completely service-minded in viewing our library opportunities. Thereby we will begin to lose sight of that smaller institution which we have worked so hard to obtain, have needed so much in the past, and need today upon which to build a future. We feel that the small library has been all to the good; it has done an excellent job. We want to retain it in many of its aspects, but we should also want to expand it beyond its present narrow limitations and prepare it to serve large areas at present without library opportunity.

We know that only in really educated countries can democracy be expected to exist. American life and American culture must be kept together through education. This is our challenge.

I know of no better way to conclude my talk with you than to quote Mrs. Winifred Davis, retired library extension worker of the Wisconsin Library Commission:

"After working many years with a great number of small libraries, the conviction grows that there is no such thing as a small library from the point of view of service, nor for that matter is there the small church, nor the small college, since in each case the institution these days is undertaking such important and far-reaching programs, and often is the valuable opportunity for giving experience to those who are ambitious for more extensive fields. Limitations placed upon the library may be due to the narrow vision of the public who support it, or of the trustees who are responsible for its functioning, or of the librarian who is not alive to the possibilities. A library may be physically small, but if it is carrying out its maximum of service, or rather, making one hundred per cent use of its minimum provision it has entered upon a large career."

Let It Be Said

Let it be said that no book can do so much damage to democratic institutions as does the librarian who suppresses it. Only by yielding type-space, platform space, and shelf-space to the proponents of all sides of all controversial questions can we give truth the opportunity to prove that time is on its side. The public library is not a commentator of any kind. Its province is not so much to "say" as to be and do. It says the most for democracy when it acts within itself as a democratic institution; when its vitalizing force spreads out from itself to every corner of the community; when it serves the entire population without fear, favor, or prejudice. The most successful democracy, in the long run, will be the best educated one. That library serves best which censors least.—S. J. K. in the *Wilson Bulletin*, December, 1939.

How Shall We Insure The Library?

FRANK S. COFFIN*

Every library presents a separate and distinct problem that necessitates risk analysis. Without the guidance of a dependable analysis or study of the insurable hazards in connection with the existing insurance, many purchasers of insurance fail to provide the protection required by the library operations.

Whether the library is a contemplated new building or one already in operation it is advisable to consult with an insurance firm specializing in fire and casualty insurance. Such a firm, through its engineering and appraisal experience, will be suitably equipped to furnish you with a detailed survey of your particular problem and provide a program that will adequately protect against the potential hazards. In general, there are four main reasons why the average library's insurance program either fails to provide the proper protection, or is insuring more than necessary:

1. Various essential coverages are purchased in a hit-or-miss fashion and not as a unified program.
2. The insurable risk of no two libraries is the same, which necessitates a detailed survey of each particular risk.
3. Programs of insurance are not altered to meet a change in cost and requirements, and therefore become dangerous and expensive misfits.
4. The insurance is usually divided among a number of brokers and agents, which means divided responsibility with no broker or agent responsible for the progress as a whole. Likewise, the loss adjustment responsibility is divided.

Let us assume that you have selected an agent or broker whom you feel is competent to perform an expert job of writing your insurance. In the insurance program to follow we must determine, first of all, what the most common catastrophe hazards are that would most likely produce a catastrophe or serious loss to the general operation of the library. In general there are four:

1. Loss or damage resulting from fire, lightning, tornado, explosion and aircraft damage.
2. Public liability covering the general operations of the library.
3. Workmen's Compensation.
4. Explosion damage resulting from the operation of a steam boiler.

FIRE INSURANCE

Let us examine more closely the first and most common of these perilous hazards, namely: fire and lightning. Qualified insurance agents or brokers will recommend the purchase of fire insurance, and with it the extended coverage, which not only protects against fire and lightning, but covers any loss or damage resulting from the perils of windstorm, cyclone, tornado and hail, riot, riot attending a strike, aircraft damage, vehicle and smoke damage.

It is necessary that the same amount of extended coverage be written as fire insurance because of the apportionment clause which appears in all extended coverage endorsements, limiting a policy so written to pay only its pro-rata share of any extended coverage loss, regardless of whether or not the remaining policies cover hazards other than fire or lightning.

In considering tornado insurance alone, it is recommended that the same amount of insurance be written as for fire, covering the building and contents. The "fall of building" clause to be found in the standard fire policy, states: "If a building, or any material part thereof, fall except as the result of fire, all insurance by this policy (the fire policy) on such building or its contents shall immediately cease." Very few buyers of insurance, and some insurance people, do not realize the significance of this important clause in a fire policy. Let us assume that a tornado or windstorm should cause the collapse of a material part of the building and a fire occur as a result thereof. It is generally considered that the fire policy will pay the fire loss.

*Mr. Coffin is of the firm Moore, Case, Lyman & Hubbard, Chicago. This article is reprinted from *Illinois Libraries*, October, 1944.

Such, however, is not the case. If you do not have windstorm insurance written in connection with your fire insurance, or windstorm insurance written separately with the "bridging the gap" endorsement on your windstorm policy, then you are in difficulty. The only collectible loss that is returnable in this case is under your windstorm policy. In view of the very nominal additional charge made for the tornado, windstorm and various other coverages under the extended coverage endorsement when written with the fire policy, it has always been our recommendation that fire and extended coverage be written.

COINSURANCE

In discussing the general subject of fire insurance, the matter of coinsurance and how it operates demands attention. Fire insurance companies offer reduced rate clauses for policies, commonly known as coinsurance. Coinsurance as used commonly is on the basis of agreement that the insurance shall be maintained at a certain percentage — 80, 90 or sometimes 100 per cent of the property value — and substantial reductions from the basic or flat rate are granted. Under any type of insurance contract (flat rate or coinsurance) the loss paid would be the same if the conditions had been complied with, providing the same amount of insurance were maintained under both coinsurance and noncoinsurance policies.

It is desirable for librarians and trustees to make a study of the whole question with an eye to possible loss adjustments. If an insurer uses a specified coinsurance clause he agrees to maintain that proportion of insurance to sound value. He will purchase his insurance at a price considerably less than the flat rate, possibly a reduction of 30 or 35 per cent, and in some territories for a fire resistive or sprinkler equipped building the rate would be reduced from 60 to 75 per cent. If he has maintained the required proportion he would collect the full amount of the loss up to the amount of insurance carried. If the customer failed to maintain the required proportion of insurance to value he would become a co-insurer with the companies and would collect partial insurance in proportion to his under-insurance.

Example — 80 per cent coinsurance on policy:

Sound Value	Insurance Required	Insurance Carried	Loss	Insurance Paid
\$100,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
100,000	80,000	60,000	40,000	30,000

In other words, the company will pay the ratio of the insurance carried (\$60,000) to the amount of insurance that should be carried (\$80,000) of the loss (\$40,000) or 6/8ths of \$40,000—\$30,000.

It is the generally accepted opinion of agents or brokers to recommend fire and extended coverage with the 80 per cent coinsurance clause, which in effect means you are a self-insurer up to 20 per cent of the actual value of the building. In most cases there is, perhaps, a 20 per cent salvage in a building of its contents after a serious loss.

INSURANCE RATE

Let us assume at this point the fire and extended coverage hazard will be protected — then comes the question of the proper rate. The best time to consider low insurance rates is when a building committee is planning the new building. In Glencoe, Ill., where a new library building is under construction, previous to the actual construction the Library Board, architect, and insurance engineers discussed such items as location, roof, walls, skylights, sprinkler system, and general type of construction. There are many important factors in low insurance rates. It is important to have a qualified agent or broker, whose office is equipped with a modern engineering and appraisal department, to work closely with the architect and rating body. Every library building, of course, is rated separately. . . . The rating bureau determines a key rate for each standard building in its town and city. For any particular building this key rate is taken as the foundation, and certain sums are added to it for such items as faulty or defective construction, nearness to other buildings, etc., and sums are subtracted from it for such favorable items as sprinklers, fire doors, and other fire prevention appliances within the building. In other words, each building is considered as a unit where rates are made up for it, and many things enter into the making of the key rate over which the library has absolutely no control, such as policy and fire

protection for the city, and other factors.

In the case of a new building, the insurance is based on the present construction, prices and the actual cost is easily determined. In an older one, we prefer a detailed appraisal of the building values by a recognized appraisal firm, determining the replacement cost for insurance purposes. Where it might be inconvenient to obtain these figures from an independent appraisal company, the engineering department of an insurance agency should be able to arrive at replacement costs if they are provided with the original cost of construction, age of the building, and up-to-date schedules of construction costs.

In discussing the amount of insurance to be written on contents, there are two items which should be included in any public library form, having to do with book and card catalog evaluations. Both of these are essential to determine the amount of insurance to be carried in case of loss. From sources we consider reliable, it seems fair assumption that book evaluations for insurance purposes can be arrived at on the following basis:

Reference books, \$3.37; non-fiction, \$1.46; fiction, \$.85; children's books, \$.67.

In the average public library, the more recent books in the Open Shelf Room would have a much greater value per book than those on the third floor of the book stack. On partial losses, this point should not be difficult to prove to fire insurance adjusters.

In estimating the value of the book contents of the library for insurance purposes, allowance should be made for the average value of books in circulation. This will vary greatly with the type of library, and the season of the year. For a considerable number of libraries consulted, the average seems to be about 19 per cent.

Card catalog values are even more puzzling and the methods of determining these values are varied. Estimates submitted range from 15c per card for a scholarly library to 2c for an ordinary public library. Here, again, it is advisable, perhaps to have a reliable, independent appraisal company make a detailed appraisal of the contents, which may be referred to after a loss. The cost of such an appraisal would be more than offset

by the speedy handling of the loss and the elimination of any question of value.

PUBLIC LIABILITY

The second catastrophe to be considered in the general program is public liability. As a result of the ownership and maintenance of the library building, the trustees or library board are subject to lawsuits resulting in bodily injury due to negligence in operating the building. Perhaps a better name for public liability insurance would be defense insurance, in which the company assumes the role of a defense lawyer to protect the library board against claims arising from bodily injury to the general public due to negligence, such as slippery sidewalks, faulty stairs, etc. A judgment against a library for many thousands of dollars can be easily and economically avoided by carrying sufficient limits of public liability coverage.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION AND OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE

Workmen's compensation and occupational disease coverage protects the library for occupational accidents and diseases. It is compulsory for the library to carry workmen's compensation insurance, but the occupational diseases coverage is optional. We would suggest, by all means, that the occupational diseases coverage be carried, for if it is not the library would be subject to common law suit, in which the benefits are considerably higher than provided under the occupational diseases Act, and, of course, there is the additional expense of hiring counsel. Compensation rates are more or less standard and credit is given from time to time in maintaining a good loss experience.

EXPLOSIONS

The fourth major consideration in library insurance is where the building is heated by a steam boiler. The explosion of a steam pressure boiler has wrecked many a building and cost thousands of lives. The most vivid, perhaps, that we recall was the school explosion in Texas in which the entire building was wrecked and many lives lost. The explosion of the common hot air or hot water boiler in most small buildings is covered under the extended coverage.

Library Planning Committee Report

1943-44

FRANK K. WALTER

*Chairman**

The Planning Committee of the Minnesota Library Association has presented several reports to the Association at its annual meetings. In addition, a sub-committee on Postwar Planning, under the chairmanship of Miss Alma M. Penrose, submitted a report at the annual meeting of the Association October 3, 1942. It named as the duties of the sub-committee:

"a. To gather information about the building needs of libraries in Minnesota communities of over 8,000 population. This study would include the assembling of data justifying new buildings where such are needed, the approximate size of such proposed buildings, and estimates of costs. (A questionnaire for this purpose was prepared but not generally distributed.)

b. To list other projects essential for giving better library service together with an estimate of the number of workers and supervisors necessary.

c. To prepare a report including this information which may be placed on file with the National Resources Planning Board, the State Planning Board, and the American Library Association."

The discontinuance or postponement of the projects under consideration by these boards and the omission of the annual meeting of the Association in 1943 were the chief cause for the absence of any report of further active work by the sub-committee. Its suggestions are therefore included in the report of the more general Planning Committee.

At the request of the Planning Committee, Mrs. Rella E. Havens, President of the Minnesota Library Association, appointed a special committee to confer with Commissioner of Education Schweickhard on the relations of the State Department of Education and the Association in regard to the library needs and conditions of the state. Six mem-

bers of the committee: Miss Ethel I Berry, Miss Lucille Gottry, Mrs. Rella E. Havens, Mr. William P. Tucker, Mr. Carl Vitz, and Mr. Frank K. Walter, chairman, met with the Commissioner September 19. Miss Frances Klune, Chisholm, and Supt. Harold A. Peterson, Tyler, were unable to be present. In the full and informal discussion Commissioner Schweickhard showed a most sympathetic attitude toward and a gratifying knowledge of library matters, and welcomed the active cooperation of the Association in promoting statewide library service.

Any practical general library plan for the state must be conditioned by the exigencies of rapidly changing war and postwar conditions. The committee therefore recommends that, for the present, a general plan be limited to emphasis of principles already recommended to and approved by the Association, in harmony with the further suggestions on state planning outlined by the American Library Association and the detailed suggestions of Mr. Vitz, also published by the American Library Association. These urge, among other things, library extension, improved book stocks, more efficient equipment and administrative procedures, and better prepared personnel. Adequate financial support is necessarily implied.

On the basis of the meetings of the Planning Committee and the conference with the Commissioner of Education, the committee presents the following recommendations.

1. The committee recommends the endorsement of the sections on library matters included in the Legislative program for 1944-45, approved August 1, 1944, by the Minnesota State Board of Education. These provide for: (1) Permissive increase from three mills to five mills tax for public libraries; (2) Permissive increase from one mill to two mills tax for county libraries; (3) Permission for county commissioners con-

*Other Members of the Committee: Evelyn Bowen, Margaret Greer, Agatha L. Klein, Robert McEwen, Carl Vitz.

tracting with public library boards for library service, to appoint four library board members to sit with the public library board in joint committee; (4) Permissive change from nine to five members of public library boards; (5) Permission to make the library fiscal year conform to that of its municipality.

2. The committee recommends endorsement of the following budget requests of the Director of Libraries of the State Education Department for the year 1944-45: (1) An increase of \$11,000 for travelling libraries for the biennium 1944-46 (an increase of from a total amount of \$14,000 to \$25,000). More books are urgently needed for these libraries. (2) For additional staff members for the Library Division: a. a supervisor or field worker; b. a typist, in addition to the Director's secretary; c. a clerical worker to assist in minor processes; d. a book mender.

3. The committee recommends the appointment of a committee to conduct at once a survey of the building needs and equipment of the libraries of the state along the lines of the questionnaire of the 1941-42 Subcommittee on Postwar Planning. The majority of the committee feel that the needs of the smaller libraries should be studied at once to assist them in making such extension, improvement, remodeling, or equipping their present quarters as may be made possible by any forthcoming state or federal aid. Expert advice is seldom available for such libraries. Any public works program which may be adopted is likely to become effective on short notice. It will almost surely be conditioned on data justifying the public expenditure. An effort should be made by this committee on survey to locate and make available for these smaller communities any engineering or architectural help which may be obtained free or at low cost. This study should be made by the Committee on Library Building or in close cooperation with it. The assistance of the State Education specialist on school buildings has been promised. It recommends no extensive building be undertaken until there is a survey of state planning, with the idea of serving as a unit in a state plan.

4. The committee recommends provision

as soon as practicable for varied but integrated types of library training for the varied kinds of libraries of the state and their varied kinds of work, for example: a. rural library needs; b. urban libraries; c. college and research libraries. The needs of school libraries are not overlooked but are not included here because of their different jurisdictional control. Early provision should be made for library institutes of a day or more duration devoted to the specific needs of the smaller libraries. Members of the Association could give valuable assistance in the conduct of these institutes under the general supervision of the State Education Department, the Center for Continuation Study and the Division of Library Instruction at the University of Minnesota, and other groups and agencies interested in libraries. These courses should be integrated and conform with the highest practicable professional standards for each type of training, under the supervision of the State Education Department, the University of Minnesota, or other recognized official jurisdiction.

5. Increased library efficiency is conditioned on staff efficiency. Provision of better training should be supplemented and at times preceded by a carefully planned campaign of recruiting for library service. The committee recommends such a campaign by such a committee as the Association may decide. It should stress the obligations as well as the opportunities of library work. Demobilization of the armed services and reconversion of war industries will almost certainly increase the number of suitable and unsuitable candidates for library work. In addition to any systematized campaign by the Association, it should be the individual responsibility of members of the Association to encourage promising and to discourage unpromising candidates for library training or library positions who may be within the circle of their personal acquaintance. It may at times be desirable to help school and other vocational advisers to a better understanding of the real character of library work and the demands, personal and professional, made by it.

6. The committee agrees that certification for public librarians may both follow and

help bring about better library conditions. One member of the committee feels that it should be made a matter of immediate legislative emphasis and that voluntary certification by the Association should be "soft-pedalled." Other members of the committee think that it would receive far more favorable consideration later. It is presented, without recommendation, to the Association for discussion and determination. It is recommended that no definite action be taken without conferring with the State Department of Education.

7. The committee recommends the early formation of a plan of statewide publicity on library needs and resources of the state under a standing committee. This plan should be integrated both with special post-war plans and any general library plan which may be adopted. It should be correlated with related publicity activities of the State Education Department and, as far as practicable, with the publicity work of individual libraries, library associations, and vocational, educational, and cultural groups. The place and importance of college and other special libraries and the obligations of the public toward these libraries (including the cost of service given by these libraries) should receive consideration.

This standing committee, to be effective, should have the benefit of a continuity of a gradually changing personnel, and the full or part-time service (as financial conditions permit) of a competent staff worker for the committee.

8. The committee recommends the resumption as soon as possible of library demonstrations similar to those made possible earlier by federal aid, and their inclusion both in a general library plan for the state and as a project for early consideration as a postwar service. The committee feels that these demonstrations should not be established or maintained, as heretofore, primarily as a relief project but as an educational activity worthy of definite support on its own merits, as a public service to the state and under state control.

9. The committee recommends a study of the desirability of a more distinct separation of the public library and other educational

activities of the state in the interests both of the State Education Department and the public libraries of the state. This study should be made in close connection with the State Education Department and only with a view to mutual advantage of schools and libraries.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE REPORT

This report was brought up for discussion twice during the Conference. At the symposium conducted by Mr. Walter at the first general session, constructive criticism and information was presented informally by the members of the Association. At the closing session of the Conference the Planning Committee Report was brought up again.

A resolution passed to the effect that the "Planning Committee Report be accepted and thrown open to specific discussion." Action on the nine sections was as follows:

Sections 1-5 inclusive, stand as recorded in the Report.

Section 6, the section on Certification, was "referred back to the Planning Committee to be acted upon at a suitable time."

Section 7. The following motion, made by Dr. McDiarmid, was carried: "It is recommended that the formulation of a statewide library plan be referred back to the Library Planning Committee, with a request that it cooperate with the Public Relations Committee, and that representatives of Social Agencies, in addition to the library representatives, be included on the Committee."

Section 8. Motion made and carried, that "Section 8 be accepted, and that the Executive Board of the Minnesota Library Association implement, through a Special Committee, the utilization of any opportunities for, or participation in, library demonstrations."

Section 9. Motion made and carried, that Section 9 be referred back to the Planning Committee for further study.

The matter was then closed, upon the adoption of the following resolution: "It is recommended that there be a Sub-Committee appointed by the Chairman of the Planning Committee to work out the problem of the study of a plan for Minnesota, and that it be properly financed by the Minnesota Library Association."

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Fifty-first Annual Conference

RUTH M. JEDERMANN

Acting Secretary-Treasurer, Minnesota Library Association

The Fifty-First Annual Conference of the Minnesota Library Association was held at the Hotel Lowry in St. Paul, October 5 to 7. In keeping with the policy of the American Library Association to omit its annual convention during the war, and because of adverse conditions, it was decided not to hold a conference last year—but, after repeated requests for one, and with an Office of Defense Transportation assurance that to call a meeting was not unpatriotic, it seemed in keeping to hold this year, as usual, the annual fall Conference.

Preceding the formal opening of the Conference, an informal reception was given for the delegates, on Thursday evening, October 5. In the receiving line, in addition to the officers of the association, Miss Perrie Jones and Miss Helen Starr, were the honor guests: the President of the American Library Association, Mr. Carl Vitz, and Mrs. Vitz; Dr. and Mrs. Errett W. McDiarmid; and Mr. and Mrs. Frank K. Walter. Under the general supervision of the Hospitality Committee's chairman, Miss Helen Rugg, plans for the reception had been turned over to Mrs. Marion Fudro and her co-worker Miss Mildred Kragaskow who, assisted by other members of the Junior Members' Round Table, helped to make the reception a delightful and informal affair.

GENERAL SESSIONS

The first general session, presided over by the president, Mrs. Rella E. Havens of St. Paul, was called to order at 10 a. m. on Friday, October 6. On behalf of the Mayor, Mr. Frank J. Madden extended a welcome to the delegates from the city of St. Paul. Mr. Madden's greeting was followed by Miss Perrie Jones, who, in her welcome to the association, particularly invited the members

to inspect the special features of the Skinner Room and the new Music Listening Room of the St. Paul Public Library. Following Miss Jones' announcement, the association arose to honor one of its distinguished fellow members, Mr. Carl Vitz, President of the American Library Association. Mr. Vitz expressed his delight over the size of the conference and then proceeded with his address on "Library Planning in Minnesota."

Speaking informally, President Vitz gave a critical but true analysis of libraries and librarians, as seen in Minnesota—in the library as it was yesterday—the library as it appears today—and the library as it should be tomorrow—a vital theme which provided an understanding background to introduce the next speaker, Mr. Frank K. Walter, chairman of the Library Planning Committee. Mr. Walter presented the tentative report of his committee by means of a lively symposium which he conducted under the general heading of "Blueprints for Tomorrow, a Discussion of Library Plans." The full report of this very important committee, as voiced then, and as reconsidered at the later business session, will be found on another page. At the symposium, the meeting was thrown open to discussion from the floor, and constructive suggestions and ideas for further consideration were offered in the following order by Miss Perrie Jones, Mr. Carl Vitz, Mrs. Agatha Klein, Miss Mae Dahl, Mr. Lee Zimmerman, Miss Alma Penrose, Miss Ethel Berry, Dr. Errett W. McDiarmid, Miss Alice Brown, Dr. Donald E. Strout, Sister Marie Cecelia, Miss Margaret Greer, and Miss Jean Gardiner Smith.

The second general session was called to order at 2 p. m. Friday afternoon; Mrs. Rella E. Havens, the president, presiding. At the request of the chairman of the State

Documents Committee, Mrs. Havens presented Mr. Harold G. Russell, who stated that his committee is trying to secure the resumption of publication of the *Check List of Minnesota Public Documents*, which had been published by the Minnesota Historical Society from 1923 to 1940, and which was discontinued in 1940 because the funds for documents were not available from the State Department of Administration. Mr. Russell then stated that a petition, with 150 names affixed, had been presented to the Commissioner of Administration, Mr. Theodore G. Driscoll. Mr. Driscoll was impressed with the petition, and has approved the appropriations item for the future publication of the *Check List*. Mr. Russell felt that there would be no difficulty in getting the appropriation through the Finance and the House Appropriations Committee of the Legislature, but he also felt that a longer list of signers would be more effective in getting the appropriation passed — so he announced that a petition would be placed on the general bulletin board, and asked everyone in the audience to please sign it; and he also asked all others interested to please affix their signatures to the bulletin.

Following Mr. Russell's request, Miss Ruth M. Jedermann, acting Secretary-Treasurer, presented the report of the Treasurer, Miss Marion E. Phillips. Miss Phillips was unable to read her report because, at present, she is at Columbia University. Miss Phillips' report for the year 1944 covering the period between October 1, 1943, and September 7, 1944, was read and accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance forward October 1, 1943..... \$853.10

RECEIPTS

Membership dues

406 individual memberships\$406.00

61 institutional memberships 122.00

Total \$528.00

Exchange on checks......10

Interest on savings account 3.23

Gifts to Children's Memorial

Library 53.00

Total 584.33

Grand total..... \$1,437.43

DISBURSEMENTS

A.L.A. contributing membership..\$ 25.00

Children's Memorial Library for

books 53.28

Stationery and printing..... 42.50

Mimeographing 22.15

Two U. S. War Bonds, purchase

cost 174.00

Telephone 3.95

Postage 45.10

Secretary's allowance..... 100.00

Catalog Section—Postage..... 3.06

Planning Committee — Secretarial

help 1.75

Publicity Committee — Express

charges72

Office supplies 2.55

Bank service, exchange, and col-

lection charges..... 7.32

Total \$ 481.38

Balance on hand Sept. 7, 1944 \$ 956.05

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Balance forward October 1, 1943..\$853.10

Total receipts..... 584.33

Grand total..... \$1,437.43

Total disbursements..... 481.38

Balance on hand..... \$ 956.05

Assets as follows:

Checking account balance Sept.

7, 1944.....\$501.10

Savings account balance 433.50

U. S. War Bonds, face value..... 400.00

Cash on hand..... 21.45

Total assets..... \$1,356.05

Respectfully submitted,

MARION PHILLIPS,

Secretary-Treasurer.

Following the reading of the treasurer's report, the Nominating Committee, Miss Maude Grogan, chairman, reported that in accordance with the Constitution and By-laws of the Minnesota Library Association the following officers had been nominated and elected by ballot:

President.....Miss Jean Gardiner Smith

First Vice-president and President-

Elect.....Miss Emily L. Mayne

Second Vice-president. Miss Lucille Gottry

The report was voted on and the new officers were duly acknowledged.

Because of the time consumed in the usual reading and accepting of certain committee reports, Mrs. Havens announced that this year nine reports had been multigraphed and distributed at the conference, and she asked

for a motion that with the exception of the report of the Library Planning Committee, these reports be accepted and not be read at that time. The motion was moved and carried.

Mrs. Havens then stated that the Executive Board of the association had voted a life membership to Mr. Frank K. Walter, Librarian Emeritus of the University of Minnesota, upon which its action was confirmed by the association, that in recognition of his distinguished service to the profession and to the state, Mr. Walter be made an Honorary Life Member of the Minnesota Library Association. The meeting was then adjourned to allow for the Section meetings which followed.

On Friday evening, at the third general session, the President, Mrs. Rella E. Havens, again presided, and with a gracious introduction presented the speaker of the evening, Dr. Mortimer J. Adler, of the University of Chicago, and Special Lecturer at St. John's College, and author of "How to Read a Book." Dr. Adler, a most stimulating and thought provoking speaker, made a plea for universal adult education and the reading of really great books through a new library organization — the seminar.

The fourth general session, under the sponsorship of the Children's and Young People's Section, was held on Saturday morning, October 7. Miss Jean Gardiner Smith, newly elected President of the Minnesota Library Association, presided, and after an inspiring introduction presented the speaker of the morning, Mr. John R. Tunis, sports writer and author of books for young people. In his own inimitable style, Mr. Tunis told his audience that young people really like sports stories and that they really appeal to them. As proof of this, he read from some of their letters to him which showed how they accept and appreciate his sports books. Mr. Tunis feels that through the medium of sports, he can carry to his youthful readers the real meaning of democracy and the spirit of America. The following titles Mr. Tunis said should be on the shelves of every library:

America learns to play, by Foster Dulles. Appleton, 1940. \$4.00.

Sports extra, by Stanley Frank. (To be published shortly.)

Farewell to sport, by Paul Gallico. Knopf, 1938. \$2.75.

Sports and games, by Harold Keith. Crowell, 1941. \$2.50.

Encyclopedia of sports, by Frank Menke. Menke, 1939. \$2.00.

All sports record book, 1935-36 (2 vols. paper) All Sports Record Book, Inc. \$1.00 ea.

A short interval, following Mr. Tunis' speech, preceded the closing business meeting of the M.L.A., which was conducted and presided over by Mrs. Havens. The Registration Committee, Miss Elsa E. Juds, chairman, gave the following report:

Total attendance at the 1944 conference.....	374
St. Paul.....	98
Minneapolis	123
Other Minnesota towns.....	144
Out of state.....	9
	—
	374
General Librarians	154
Children's Librarians.....	21
School Librarians	50
College Librarians.....	30
County Librarians.....	11
Medical and Hospital Librarians	13
Special Librarians.....	16
Exhibitors	7
Trustees	18
Students	41
Guests	13
	—
	374

Mr. Ernest L. Johnson, chairman of the Exhibits Committee, then reported informally that, considering the fact that we are in the midst of a great war, he felt very well satisfied with the number (17) of exhibits, and with their high standard. Mr. Johnson thought that the exhibits would net the M.L.A. about \$180.00, and he also stated that there were three times the number of exhibits that he had expected would be shown.

Fully reported on another page, with a resumé of the action taken upon it, the very important report of the Planning Committee was then brought up and read and discussed

item by item — following which Mr. Wave L. Noggle made a motion which was moved and carried that the "Minnesota Library Association accept with thanks and appreciation the work of the Library Planning Committee." This was in recognition of a very important step which the Committee has made in Minnesota library history — and also, in recognition of the great work which this Committee, and its predecessors, has thus far put in motion and accomplished.

The Resolutions Committee, Miss Lois Fawcett, chairman, then introduced a number of resolutions, which have been placed on file in the permanent minutes of the meeting. One of the resolutions, however, is of enough general importance to be printed in this report. It reads as follows:

WHEREAS: The State Commissioner of Education, Dean Schweickhard, has shown an interest in and an understanding of library matters, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Minnesota Library Association express its appreciation of this attitude, and that it pledge its cooperation and support in the promotion of library interest by the Department of Education.

Following the acceptance of the Resolutions Committee Report, the presiding officer, Mrs. Havens, extended an invitation from the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce to hold the next meeting of M.L.A. in Minneapolis. As no action was taken upon this, the decision was left for a later meeting of the Executive Board.

Upon motion, the fifty-first conference of the Minnesota Library Association was then adjourned.

SECTION MEETINGS

The Catalog Section held a luncheon meeting on Friday noon, at the Women's City Club, with Miss Constance Humphrey, chairman, presiding. It was a larger meeting than usual — 90 persons attending it. In discussing "Subject Headings in 1944" Miss Helen K. Starr quoted from two letters by the Library of Congress cataloging staff which, added to Miss Starr's comments, should prove helpful to catalogers using Library of

Congress cards and subject headings. Followed, a generally neglected catalog topic, "Subject Headings in a Children's Catalog in Terms of Trends in Contemporary Education." This was discussed by Miss Della McGregor. The following officers were elected: chairman, Miss Anne Marinelli, Chisholm High School Library; secretary, Miss Anne Carroll, Minneapolis Public Library.

The Trustees' Section met on Friday afternoon for a business meeting, after which it combined with the Small Public Libraries' Section to hear a speech by Mrs. Ella Veslak, Shawano, Wisconsin. Twenty-one members were present at the business meeting; Mrs. Emil Ahola, Virginia, presided, in the absence of the president, Mrs. D. A. McKenzie, Crookston. Copies of a ten-point program, previously adopted by the Trustees' Section, were passed around in order to open a discussion on Survival and Finances. Mr. Lee Zimmerman, State Director of Libraries, was present and, after paying tribute to Mrs. McKenzie, spoke on "The Needs for Minnesota." Mr. Zimmerman, in particular, stated the need of a state-wide plan for organizing trustees and a program which would be related to the needs of Minnesota. "Trustees should establish friendly relations with city councils," said Mr. Zimmerman, who also felt that constructive legislation for libraries could be carried out by the support of a strong group of trustees knitted together in solidarity by definite objectives. All members of the section agreed that the Trustees' Section should be a vital organized force. In order to give it workable funds, the question of \$2.00 annual dues for each of Minnesota's 145 Library Boards was discussed. Elected to office were Mrs. D. L. Grannis, South St. Paul; Mrs. H. B. Gough, St. Cloud; and Mrs. C. T. Olin, Coleraine, chairman.

Presided over by the temporary chairman, Miss Ethel I. Berry, Hennepin County Library, a meeting of County Librarians was held on Friday afternoon for the purpose of asking that a "County and Regional Library Section of the M.L.A. be organized at which problems especially peculiar to county library work could be discussed." For the establishment of this, a petition, with the required

signatures, was drawn up for presentation to the M.L.A. Executive Board by a committee composed of Mrs. Agatha Klein, State Library Division; Mrs. Ruth Palmer, Ramsey County; and Mrs. Florence Wellhausen, Watonwan County, chairman. Miss Emily Mayne, Martin County Librarian, Fairmont, then gave an entertaining account of the Library Extension Institute, which she attended last August, at the University of Chicago. Mrs. Margaret L. Leonard, Blue Earth County Librarian, Mankato, was elected chairman of the group for next year.

A Junior Meeting Round Table was held on Friday afternoon in an attempt to revive the Junior Members' Section; Mrs. Marion Schaeffer Fudro, acting chairman, presided. In a brief business session a motion was made and carried by a majority standing vote that the section be reestablished. A suggestion was also made that recent library school graduates be nominated later as candidates for office, on the supposition that they are closer to the needs of the younger group, and are imbued with more enthusiasm. Because of a small attendance election of officers at the meeting seemed inadvisable; so a motion was carried that the acting chairman choose a nominating committee for selection of candidates at another time. Preceding the business meeting, Mrs. Ann Ginn, radio columnist and instructor at Miller Vocational Evening School, gave an inspiring talk on "Charm and Personality."

At a meeting of Reference Librarians, presided over by Mr. Harold R. Russell, a discussion was held as to the feasibility of forming a Reference Librarians' Section. It was decided to do so; and Mr. Russell was elected temporary chairman; Miss Elizabeth Bond, temporary secretary. A petition with 31 signatures attached, was drawn up which asked

the Executive Board of the M.L.A. for the "establishment of a new section of the Association to be known as the Reference Librarians' Section." This meets the demands of a long felt need and, in order to immediately get into action, dues of \$.50 were asked of those present. Following the business of forming a section, Miss Elizabeth Thorson spoke on "U. S. Patent Drawings and Specifications."

On Friday afternoon after short separate business meetings of the Trustees' and the Small Public Libraries' Sections, Mrs. Ella Veslak, Librarian, Shawano, Wisconsin, spoke to the combined sections on "The Small Public Library and the Community."

The College Section, Rev. Benjamin J. Stein, St. John's University, chairman, met Friday afternoon for a business meeting. New members were introduced preceding a general discussion on college library buildings, with special reference to plans for a new post-war library building under consideration at St. John's University. The following officers were elected: chairman, Miss Bernice Kuzna, College of St. Catherine; secretary-treasurer, Miss Anna C. Lagergren, Hamline University.

The Children's and Young People's Section met Saturday morning with Miss Isabel Thouin, chairman, presiding. Announcement was made by the chairman that because of paper and labor shortage, the M.L.A. Council would not authorize the publication of a booklet on new children's books; instead, selections were to be based on the A.L.A. Booklist and Miss Erstad's graded lists. The meeting was then turned over to Miss Jean Gardiner Smith, incoming president of the Minnesota Library Association, who introduced the speaker of the morning, Mr. John R. Tunis, who spoke on "Books and the Young People's World."



SALMAGUNDI

Service to Veterans

For the purpose of assisting returning veterans, the Minneapolis Public Library has set up a vocational information service under the supervision of a special library assistant who, working from the Library, coordinates its resources in the interest of veterans, provides data on occupations, educational opportunities, guidance and current employment assistance.

The assistant is also on duty part-time at the Veterans' Information and Referral Office set up by the Minneapolis Council of Social Agencies. Here the Library representative is one of the more than forty cooperating agencies. At this center borrowers' cards are issued to those interested. The library representative explains the library's collections and activities. In addition to vocational information, a veteran may receive assistance on home planning, infant care, etc., direct from the assistant or through a referral card to the special department at the main library.

A deposit collection of books is maintained at the Referral Office comprising different subjects but with emphasis upon the vocational fields. There is also a bulletin board which contains scholarship notices, veterans' laws and new pamphlets. Printed booklists on various subjects are displayed on a table and a notebook of newspaper releases is kept up-to-date for pickup reading.

Books Are Wanted

The American Merchant Marine Library Association, 105 Embarcadero, San Francisco 11, California, is anxious to obtain book contributions for seamen assigned to convoy duty, troop transports and oil tankers.

The Association would like to receive complete well-balanced, forty book libraries from organizations and communities. Such libraries should include fiction and non-fiction, which would satisfy the varied tastes of seamen.

Millions of Books

A plan to salvage millions of army camp library books and use them in starting rural public libraries has been proposed to the Surplus Property Administration and to Congress by Carl Vitz, president of the A.L.A.

"With demobilization," said Mr. Vitz, "many millions of books will become surplus property. These surplus millions can go a long way to meet the needs of the 35,000,000 of rural and small town Americans who have no local public libraries. It is proposed that the books be allotted to the states by the U. S. Office of Education in proportion to each state's rural population; that they be allotted to counties and groups of counties within the states by the official state library extension agencies; that some funds be appropriated by the Federal government to assist in making the books immediately available to the people through organized libraries; and that there be no federal control of libraries within the states."

Books on Cooperatives

A bibliographic article "What is the Role of Consumer Cooperatives?" appeared in the A.L.A. Booklist, October 15, 1944. It is by C. J. McLanahan, Educational Director, Cooperative League of the U. S., 343 S. Dearborn, Chicago 4, Illinois. Librarians may want to refer to this article.

There are some 2,500 study groups over the country stimulated by The Cooperative League through its educational committees. These groups are using adult education techniques to study any problem related to the community and are open to any interested individual.

Collections of books (\$25.00 worth) on cooperatives are available to public or school libraries upon application either direct to the manager of the local cooperative or through a member of the cooperative in any community where there is a cooperative. Several of the books listed in the Booklist article are included in these collections.

Personnel

- Shirley Sheppard, Librarian, Gilbert Public Library, has resigned to become Ass't. Librarian in the Clatsop County Library at Astoria, Oregon.
- Mrs. Eleanor Pfau, Bemidji Public Librarian since 1942, has resigned to accept a position as Ass't. Librarian of the Bemidji State Teachers College Library. She has been succeeded by Margaret Hauge, Children's Librarian, Utica, New York, Public Library. Miss Hauge was formerly on the staff of the Minneapolis Public Library.
- Ann Marinelli who, for the past five years, has been Catalog Librarian, Carleton College, is now Senior High School Librarian, Chisholm.
- Miss Edythe E. Robinson has resigned her position as Pine City librarian to accept a teaching post at Finlayson. Her place has been taken by Mrs. H. Hinze.
- Mrs. Averil Randall, on the staff of the Children's department, Memphis, Tennessee, Public Library, has been appointed Children's Librarian, Winona Public Library. Margaret Lane, Texas State College for Women, has been appointed Reference Librarian.
- Leota Dalby, formerly a rural school teacher, has been appointed librarian of the Kanabec County Library, Mora.

New Bulletin

A new publication, the *Postwar Information Bulletin*, 8 W. 40th St., New York 18, N. Y., will be a clearing house of information on national and international postwar problems. It will contain informative digests of national and international subjects and reports on selected materials available and prospective. It will include an exchange of technique and experiences in popular education. It will present information on publications, films, recordings, broadcasts and other study and discussion materials. It is extending its services to organizations, discussion leaders, teachers, librarians and individuals throughout the country. Subscription is \$1.00 a year.

County Library Reprint

A reprint of two recent articles on the county library appearing in this publication: "The County or Regional Library — What Is It?" and "The County Library — How to Get It!" has just been issued by the LIBRARY DIVISION. The two articles have been published jointly in leaflet form and will be sent on request to anyone interested. Out-of-state librarians should enclose a 3-cent stamp to cover cost of mailing.

Geographic School Bulletin

On payment of \$.25 to the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C., any teacher or librarian will receive 30 issues of the *Geographic School Bulletins*, a weekly illustrated periodical, containing accurate, up-to-date material on places, peoples, industries, commodities, and scientific developments of popular interest in the news. The *Bulletins* are illustrated from the Society's files of 300,000 photographs.

United Nations Kit

The United Nations Education Kit designed for use by senior high school, college and adult groups may be obtained through the United Nations Information Office, 610 Fifth Ave., New York 20, for \$3.00. The kit includes a study guide, 15 copies of a monograph descriptive of each of the United Nations, and 23 poster-charts of pictures and comments about the United Nations.

Twin City Club

On the evening of October 20 the Twin City Library Club held its fall dinner meeting in the Women's City Club. Carl Vitz, President of the American Library Association, was guest speaker. He presented an informal report of a conference he attended in New York last September of organizations interested in the Army's Committee to Advise Special Services Division on Expanding Army Entertainment and Recreation Program.

Ninety-one Twin City librarians attended the meeting. Dr. Lewis Beeson, Minnesota Historical Society Library, was named president for next year.

"Friends" Group Organized

The Duluth Public Library has taken a forward step in organizing a "Friends of the Library" group. A carefully selected body of citizens from labor leaders to the Chamber of Commerce head and members of the city council responded to the library's invitation to attend the organization meeting of the "Friends of the Library." Margaret Culkin Banning, library board chairman, presided and requested several present to state what the library means to them and their organizations. The library's post-war building plans were discussed briefly.

A president and vice president of the "Friends" were named. There are to be no dues and no regular meetings. The purpose of the organization is to inform the public of the resources, services and possibilities of the library, to stimulate gift books, manuscripts, endowments, bequests and memorials, and to enable the library to use the interest and influence of the members to extend its services through them.

Leaflet On Planning

Standards and Planning for Public Libraries is the title of a leaflet recently published by the A.L.A. and based on *Post-war Standards for Public Libraries*, A.L.A., 1943. The twelve-page summary is intended for use by library trustees, public officials, and interested citizens, and may be purchased from the American Library Association, 520 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 11, at the rate of 10 copies for \$1.00; 50 for \$4.50; and 100 for \$8.50.

Division of Public Libraries

With a second favorable vote of the A.L.A. Council on October 13, the long anticipated Division of Public Libraries became a reality. Much credit for this development is due to Carl Vitz, chairman of Librarians of Large Public Libraries Round Table, who worked for this over a period of years. Sections will consist of the following groups: adult education, branch librarians, business and technology, lending, librarians of large public libraries, order and book selection, service librarians, and small libraries.

Book Week Luncheon

Children's Book Week for 1944 was launched in St. Paul with a festive and successful luncheon at the Women's City Club November 11. The luncheon, sponsored by the Children's Room of the St. Paul Public Library, was attended by well over 100 people — teachers, supervisors, Branch Library Board members, friends of the Library, as well as librarians from the Twin Cities.

Distinguished Minnesota authors and illustrators shared honors with grade school boys and girls who have done outstanding work as library volunteers, as scouts and community workers.

Luncheon guests were introduced to Mrs. Carol Brink, Miss Emma Brock, Mrs. Mildred Comfort, Mrs. Elsa Jemne, and Mrs. Elizabeth Palmer, authors and illustrators of children's books, who responded with brief talks.

Mrs. Alma Scott, formerly on the staff of the New Ulm Public Library, author of *The Story of Kattor* and winner of a University of Minnesota creative writing fellowship, was principal guest speaker.

Attention Librarians

Will the librarian who copied a letter from a Missouri boy to Mr. John R. Tunis about racial discrimination after Mr. Tunis' talk on October 7 in St. Paul, please send a copy of that letter to Elizabeth Bond, Minneapolis Public Library? Unfortunately Mr. Tunis' luggage, including these letters, was lost, and he wants very much to replace the text of this particular letter.

Library Scholarship

The Katharine L. Sharp scholarship, which carries a stipend of \$350 and exemption from tuition, will be awarded by the University of Illinois Library School, April 1, 1945. They are open only to candidates not over 30 years of age. Applications for the scholarship should be secured from and filed with the Director of the School, R. B. Downs, Urbana, Illinois, before February 15, 1945.

Freedom To Read

Every librarian hates censorship. His decision to add a book or periodical to the collection is not arbitrary but is based on the conviction that the book is of value and interest to his patrons. Once he has made his decision in accordance with that policy, he should not be overruled by persons who want to prevent others from reading what they themselves disapprove of. This type of interference in library operation is frequently accompanied by threats so serious as to force the librarian to accede to it. Whenever he does accede he reluctantly restricts the freedom to read. Such action is directly contrary to the principles he believes in; that's why he hates censorship.

The American Library Association's Committee on Intellectual Freedom has been empowered by the Executive Board and Council to compile a record of attempts, successful or not, to interfere with the library's provision of any book or periodical. To do this it must have the help of the libraries. We therefore ask that you report to us any incident in your community where someone or some group or organization attempted to interfere with the provision of a book or magazine. We'd like to know:

- Book or periodical affected.
- Person or organization interfering.
- Action taken or threatened by interfering agency.
- Action taken or contemplated by the library.

We shall not make this information public without your permission.

Please send all information to Leon Carnovsky, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Ill., the chairman of the Committee on Intellectual Freedom. Other members of the Committee are Mrs. J. Periam Danton, Philadelphia, Pa.; Mr. Frederic G. Melcher, editor of Publishers' Weekly, New York City; Mr. Jens Nyholm, librarian of Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.; Miss Ruth Rutzen, chief of the circulation department, Detroit Public Library, Detroit, Mich.; and Mrs. George H. Tomlinson, trustee of the Evanston Public Library, Evanston, Ill.

On Library Buildings

The A.L.A. would like all public libraries to send to it data on post-war building needs, together with information on any new structures which may have been planned to date.

It is important to have post-war building projects ready for immediate letting of contracts when labor becomes available. The planning of a new building usually takes longer than the actual construction of the building itself.

Loans for the preparation of plans and specifications for public works will soon be available from the federal government under the George Reconversion Act which was signed by the President, October 3.

Applications must be filed through official planning agencies. The Federal Works Agency hopes to delegate authority to field offices, so that small grants may be approved promptly. Federal *grants* for public works are not anticipated at this time.

According to A.L.A. Headquarters, requests coming to it for information on building plans indicate that many libraries are just beginning to make plans. The importance of drawing up library building plans *now* cannot be overstated. Public Libraries should be *ready* with a blueprint in a post-war period of building expansion.

Notes On The Chicago Institute

- The Institute held at the University of Chicago, August 21-26, was attended by 200 librarians. Library leaders from all parts of the U. S. were present: Staff specialists from A.L.A. headquarters, state librarians, regional and county librarians.
- The A.L.A. and the University of Chicago announced the award of three scholarships. The awards according to Dr. Joeckel, were based largely upon the value to the state from which the winners came. Agatha L. Klein of the LIBRARY DIVISION was given one of the scholarships.
- Dr. Joeckel, Dean of the Graduate Library School, opened the Institute with a general survey of Library Extension. He stated that of approximately 3,000 counties

in the U. S., only 600 had county libraries. He noted that there are 75,000 libraries — too many and too weak — with the number still increasing. Four-fifths had an income of less than \$4,000 and only 200 had as much as \$25,000.

• Dr. Joeckel did a fine job of summarizing, and directing discussion. The desirability of larger library units in the future, the pros and cons of bookmobiles and inter-library cooperative projects were some of the many problems discussed. These were followed by conferences, each individual studying a problem of his own. . . . A librarian from Tennessee planned a regional service for fellow negroes of her state. A library extension field worker from California planned a new building.

• Minnesotans attending the Conference, in addition to Mrs. Klein, were Ethel Berry, Hennepin County Library; Anita Saxine, Winona Public Library; Emily Mayne, Martin County Library; and Ruth Ersted, LIBRARY DIVISION.

• Here in Minnesota we have a great opportunity. A regional set-up may prove essential for sections of Minnesota. We can be grateful for the simplicity of our own state law which governs the establishment of county libraries.

• I was impressed with the high regard in which our state library leaders are held by other librarians attending the Institute, and also with the high regard in which MINNESOTA LIBRARIES is held by out-of-state librarians.—*Emily Mayne.*

Choice Versus Compulsion

Every one of us exercises a personal censorship every day of his life. We decide to read one book, not another; we vow never to see another play by a certain dramatist; we fulminate against an editorial that clashes with our views. Our action may depend on a number of factors: our upbringing, our education, our glandular make-up, our tastes, our prejudices, our mood. We may not be content to reserve our judgment to ourselves; we may try to persuade our children and our friends.

With this type of censorship no liberal will quarrel. It is predicated on the freedom of personal choice. It is dynamic and democratic; through the processes of education the standards which govern its exercise are constantly molded and improved. But the moment some official steps in and deprives us of *the right to exercise our choice* by making a book unavailable to us even if we want it, we get another kind of censorship, the Hitler-Mussolini-Stalin kind: one that proceeds from coercion, one that comes from the outside instead of from within, one that is unsound, dangerous, hostile to progress and, from the censor's own point of view, futile.—M. L. Ernst and Alexander Lindey, in their *The censor marches on*. p. 212. (Doubleday, 1940.)

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

New Books For The Small Library

COMPILED BY AGATHA L. KLEIN

Books About the War

- Bourke-White, Margaret. *They called it Purple Heart valley*. Simon & Schuster. 2.75. Pictures and words vividly explain what everyday life was like to the fighting men during the bitterest phases of the Italian campaign.
- Brown, Joe E. *Your kids and mine*. Doubleday. 2.00. The author's experiences in entertaining American soldiers in China, Italy, the Aleutians and the South Pacific.
- Brown, J. M. *Many a watchful night*. Whitteley. 2.75. A good picture of the incidents of American life brought to England by the armed forces and the effect of the British way of life on our fighting men.
- Going, C. G. *Dogs at war*. Macmillan. 2.50. The selection, training and uses of dogs in the army, coast guard and marines as well as much material on dogs in foreign countries and stories about outstanding dogs.
- Karski, Jan. *Story of a secret state*. Houghton. 3.00. The absorbing story by an eyewitness of the Underground in Poland in action with courts functioning, schools running, and morale sustained.
- Pyle, Ernie. *Brave men*. Holt. 3.00. An intimate, human report of the armed forces in action in Sicily, Italy, England and France from June, 1943, to September, 1944.
- Snow, Edgar. *People on our side*. Random. 3.50. Excellent discussion of the place of India, USSR and China in the world picture and problems they present.
- Warburg, J. P. *Foreign policy begins at home*. Harcourt, 2.50. A liberal, reasonable statement of conditions and objectives within the understanding of the average reader.
- Wertenbaker, C. C. *Invasion!* Appleton-Century, 2.50. Good, objective reporting by a *Time-Life* reporter of the first three weeks of the allied invasion of Normandy.

Other Non-Fiction

- Baruch, D. W. *Parents can be people*. Appleton-Century, 2.50. A practical discussion of parent-child relationships from prenatal days to adolescence.
- Beard, C. A., and M. R. *Basic history of the U. S.* Garden City pub. co. 69c. A well-written, concise history of the political, social and economic factors in American society from colonial times to the present.
- Botkin, B. A., editor. *Treasury of American folklore*. Crown, 3.00. Favorite stories, legends, tall tales, traditions, ballads and songs of the American people.
- Brooks, V. W. *World of Washington Irving*. Dutton, 3.75. This is the first in chronological order of the literary histories of America which Brooks is writing. It is a complete picture of the contributions of various regions and authors from 1800 to 1840.
- Fosdick, H. E. *A Great time to be alive*. Harper, 2.00. A volume of sermons which will serve to inspire and direct people.
- Helmericks, Constance. *We live in Alaska*. Little, 3.00. Story of a young couple in Alaska and a trip down the Yukon river.
- Jaques, F. P. *Snowshoe country*; illus. by F. L. Jaques. The diary and lovely black and white drawings portray the beauty and spirit of a winter spent by the authors on the Gunflint in Minnesota.
- Johnson, O. H. L. *Bride in the Solomons*. Houghton, 3.00. Story of two years the author and her husband spent in the Solomons trying to get pictures of cannibals.
- Kimbrough, Emily. *How dear to my heart*. Dodd, 2.50. Delightful picture of the happy family relationships known by the author in her childhood in a small mid-western town.
- Landon, M. M. *Anna and the king of Siam*. Day, 3.75. The engrossing tale of Anna

- Leonowens' experiences at the Siamese court in the 1860's as teacher and adviser to the king and his family and as a friend to the needy.
- Logan, R. W. *What the Negro wants*. Univ. of No. Carolina, 3.50. Honest, intelligent opinions of 14 outstanding Negroes not only on what they want as a group but also how to attain their aims.
- McWilliams, Carey. *Prejudice: Japanese-Americans; symbol of racial intolerance*. Little, 3.00. An excellent book on the history of the Japanese in America and the discrimination against this group.
- Meyer, A. E. *Journey through chaos*. Harcourt, 3.00. A vivid, soul-searching report on what has happened to the home front under the stress of the past three years.
- Porter, Alyene. *Papa was a preacher*. Abigdon-Cokesbury, 1.75. A minister's daughter writes gaily of the childhood escapades and fun in a family of eight children.
- Strode, Hudson. *Timeless Mexico*. Harcourt, 3.50. A fine history and interpretation of Mexico from the time of Cortes to the present day.
- Yost, Edna. *Normal lives for the disabled*. Macmillan, 2.50. Practical help for war veterans as well as inspirational stories of men and women who have overcome physical handicaps.
- Fiction**
- Beebe, E. T. R. *Yankee stranger*, by Elswyth Thane, pseud. Duell, 2.50. Romance of the Civil war period.
- Best, Herbert. *Young 'un*. Macmillan, 2.50. A vivid picture of upstate New York in the 1800's and the struggle of two youngsters of 14 and 15 to win out.
- Brink, C. R. *Buffalo coat*. Macmillan, 2.50. A human and engrossing story of the characters in 1890 Opportunity, Idaho, who were drawn to the town by its name.
- Brown, G. G. E. *Earth and high heaven*, by Gwethalyn Graham, pseud. Lippincott, 2.50. A deeply moving indictment of anti-Semitism told through the story of Erica, daughter of a prominent Montreal family who falls in love with Marc Reiser, a Jewish lawyer.
- Cronin, A. J. *The green years*. Little, 2.50. An appealing story of the childhood and adolescence of a sensitive, lonely boy of Scotland.
- De la Roche, Mazo. *Building of Jalna*. Little, 2.50. The first volume, chronologically, of the Whiteoak family of the Jalna series.
- Fast, H. M. *Freedom road*. Duell, 2.75. This effectively presented story of a period in post Civil war reconstruction in the South describes Negro and poor white cooperation on a plantation and the opposition of the Ku Klux Klan and like groups.
- Goudge, Elizabeth. *Green dolphin street*. Coward-McCann, 3.00. A charming but overly long novel of incidents in the various lives of a family of 1830 in the Channel Islands and New Zealand.
- Halsey, Margaret. *Some of my best friends are soldiers*. Simon & Schuster, 2.50. An amusing novel in the form of letters from a young woman to her brother in the army.
- Idell, A. E. *Bridge to Brooklyn*. Holt, 2.75. A colorful, romantic novel of the Rogers family who appeared in "Centennial summer." Good, light entertainment.
- Knight, R. A., and Hersholt, Jean. *Dr. Christian's office*. Random, 2.50. "Novelized version of a radio serial in which Dr. Christian is physician, counselor and friend to the people of a small midwest river town." *Booklist*.
- Norway, N. S. *Pastoral*, by Nevil Shute, pseud. Morrow, 2.50. The love story, tenderly told, of two young people — one a bomber pilot, the other a WAAF.
- Sharp, Margery. *Cluny Brown*. Little, 2.50. This story of the unusual niece of a London plumber who was supposed to learn her place in life in domestic service but didn't is good entertainment.
- Spring, Howard. *Hard facts*. Viking, 2.50. A story of the contradictory love of a young curate in England in the 80's. Also pictures the fabulous career of the man who founded the first penny newspaper.
- Stevenson, D. E. *Listening valley*. Farrar, 2.50. Light romance in the author's usual style with an English setting.
- Stone, Irving. *Immortal wife*. Doubleday, 3.00. A long, colorful, historical novel with Jessie Benton Fremont as the heroine.

For the Small Library

TODAY'S HANDBOOK FOR LIBRARIANS (Sweeney)

Challenges every library wishing to identify itself with the postwar adjustments of its community. Arms the alert library worker with the kind of information wanted by veterans, war workers, young people deciding on careers, prospective inductees, and others, to help them now and in the postwar period. Various agencies, governmental and private, and their addresses, are listed, with statements of what they are prepared to do and of the kind of help each gives. The author is Director of Occupational Guidance Service, St. Paul Public Library. 100p. Planographed, 75 cents.

POST-WAR STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES (Joeckel)

States the objectives of public libraries, and describes the various standards necessary for adequate and efficient public library service. Valuable yardstick for use of trustees, librarians, and other community-minded persons for planning their libraries' further progress. \$1.50.

THE SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARY (Moshier-LeFevre)

The essentials in library administration, organization, and service which will develop the strong, efficient small library in the community. For librarians and trustees who want to plan and improve. Cloth, \$1.50.

THE LIBRARY TRUSTEE (Hall)

Deals with the many problems and phases of medium-sized library operation. Helps trustee and librarian to understand their respective roles in serving library and community with highest efficiency. Cloth, \$2.35.

WORK WITH CHILDREN IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES (Power)

Overall view of library service to children. Chapter nine discusses present service and future needs in small towns and rural areas. Cloth, \$3.

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